

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0794/P1dn
TKK:kjf:ph

November 20, 2008

Senator Coggs:

I have two items for your consideration:

1. Under this bill, a school district or the operator of an independent charter school is authorized to refuse to enroll a child in first grade if that child has not completed kindergarten. This "refusal to enroll" could conceivably occur even if the child has just moved into Wisconsin having already started first grade in a state where kindergarten was not a prerequisite to first grade.

Under proposed s. 118.33 (6) (c) 2. and 4., school boards and operators of independent charter schools are authorized to establish policies, conditions, standards, and procedures for exempting a child from the requirement to complete kindergarten prior to entering first grade.

Did you wish to include an explicit reference in s. 118.33 (6) (c) 2. and 4. that requires school districts and operators of independent charter schools to draft policies applicable to pupils who did not complete kindergarten and who moved into the state after the pupils would have completed kindergarten but before either beginning or completing first grade?

2. Neither current law nor this bill require a pupil to complete first grade before being enrolled in second grade. A school board may choose to enroll a pupil into second grade who has not completed either kindergarten or first grade without running afoul of this bill. Okay?

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